



The Pirates and the Three Cutters Captain Marryat

Pirates are the subject of many a dime novel and boys' stories, but they tend to be portrayed as one-dimensional. Such is the case here. The captain of *The Avenger* is a Byronic or even a Michael Scottish hero—an impossible monster, compounded of one virtue and a thousand crimes. Marryat drew on his recollections of the time when he was a midshipman with Cochrane in the *Impèrieuse*, for the figure of the old steersman, who sticks to his post under the fire of the *Avenger*. *The Three Cutters* was written to pad out the novel *The Pirate* and deals with smuggling. It is a farcical romp, with too many women in a man's world to be credible.

Read by Librivox volunteers . Total running time: 08:24:39

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